



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CALTRANS, SAN MATEO COUNTY, AND LOCAL CITIES CELEBRATE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF STATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM

SAN BRUNO – On August 7, 1912, Chairman Burton Towne of the California Highway Commission dug a shovel into the dirt and broke ground for El Camino Real (State Highway 82), the first project in the California highway system.

One hundred years later, California transportation officials and elected leaders gathered today at San Bruno City Hall to observe the anniversary, and reflect on the evolution of California's highway system over the last century.

"Our parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents paved the dirt roads, and expanded them into the highways we see today," said Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty. "They built roads, bridges, tunnels, and ports, which are the foundation upon which we have prospered. Let us do the same for our children and grandchildren."

"The Peninsula communities truly came together as a result of the transformative decision to build the state highway system," said Adrienne Tissier, President of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors. "Paving this stretch of highway liberated the people along this corridor to move beyond their own communities, driving the economic engine that became the foundation for San Mateo County's growth."

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